

## SUBMISSION ON THE CANBERRA HOSPITAL MASTER PLAN

Public Transport Association of Canberra



Dear Minister Stephen-Smith,

The Public Transport Association of Canberra (PTCBR) welcomes the opportunity to provide input to the proposed master plan for the Canberra Hospital precinct. This submission provides our views in the context of the *Canberra Hospital Expansion* pre-development application plans as presented on the ACT Government's [project website](#).

In short, PTCBR strongly supports the creation of a master plan for the Canberra Hospital. However, we have serious concerns about the proposed public transport flows in and around the precinct following the completion of the *Canberra Hospital Expansion*, which has been planned prior to the development of this master plan.

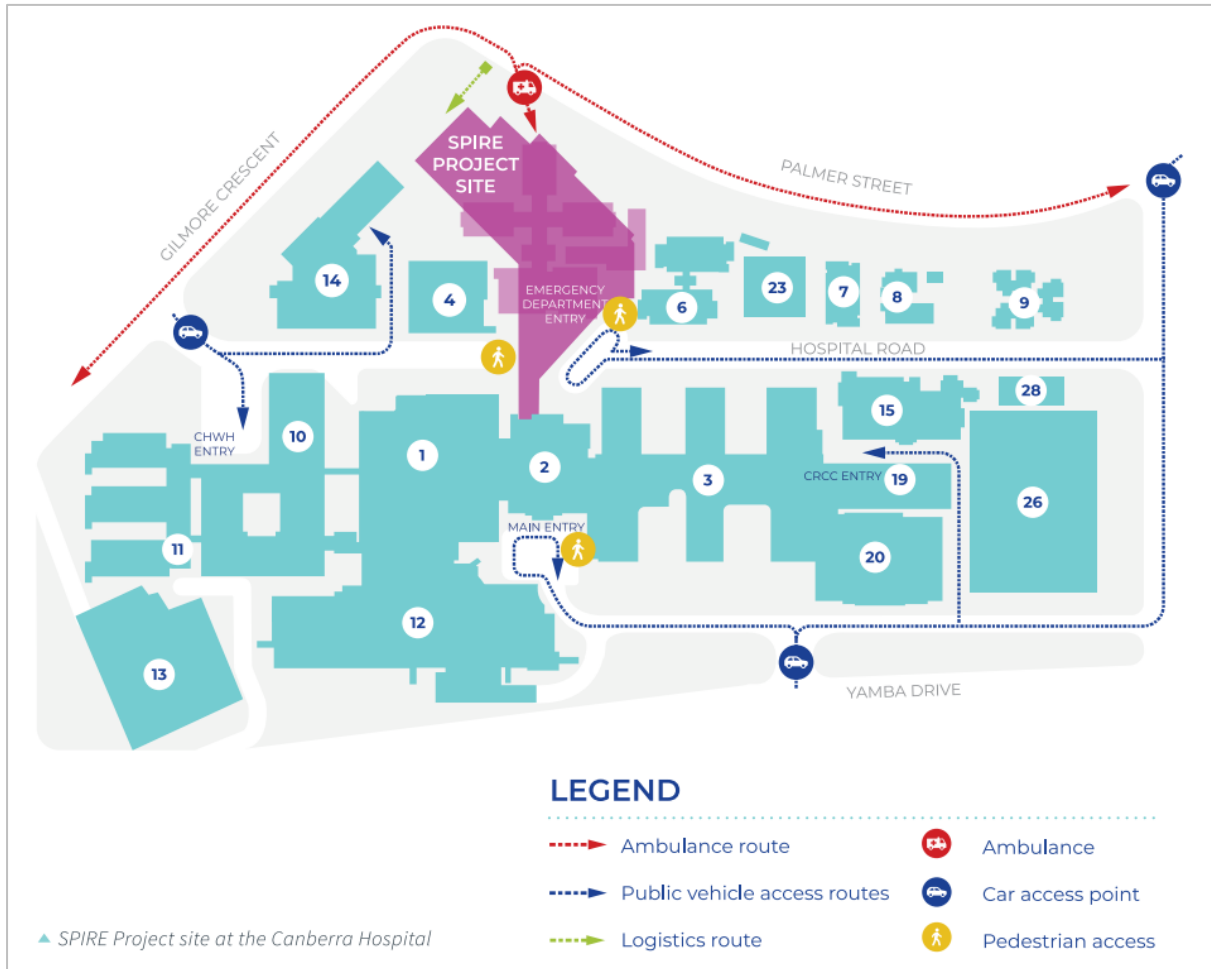
Prior to its closure in May 2020, Hospital Road functioned as the key public transport access point for people wishing to visit the hospital. As illustrated in **Figures 1 and 2**, it is evident that the *Canberra Hospital Expansion* will result in the permanent closure of Hospital Road as a public transport access route.

As it currently stands, the ['temporary' re-routing](#) of the R6 bus is highly unsatisfactory. The alternative Bateson Road stop is 350 metres from the main hospital entrance, with the Yamba Drive stop being almost as far and requires passengers to cross a high-speed arterial road and negotiate a significant change in elevation to access the hospital.

As part of the master planning process, PTCBR strongly urges the ACT Government to develop a comprehensive transport plan for the Canberra Hospital precinct. This plan should identify and safeguard a long-term public transport route capable of supporting a frequent, high-capacity rapid service that provides stops close to the main clinical buildings. With the closure of Hospital Road, Palmer Street and Gilmore Crescent may prove to be a more suitable route for these purposes.



Figure 1: Canberra Hospital SPIRE Project - Access and Entry Review Study (November 2019)



**Figure 2:** Canberra Hospital Expansion Project - May 2020 Update

The PTCBR Executive are available to discuss any aspect of this submission.

Sincerely,

Ryan Hemsley  
 Chair,  
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